

**LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MONTHLY MEETING – March 17, 2020**

These Board proceedings are published as prescribed by Section 59.14(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes at County Government expense.

The Langlade County Board of Supervisors met in the County Board Room, Safety Building. Chairman Solin called the March 17, 2020 Meeting of the County Board to order at 9:00 a.m.

On call of the roll, all Supervisors reported present, except Supervisors Scupien, and Livingston. Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Supervisor Wiegert to excuse Supervisors Scupien and Livingston. All ayes, motion carried. 19 Supervisors present, 2 absent.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence.

**Approve or amend the minutes of February 18, 2020 meeting as printed and published:** Supervisor Cahak requests approval after the minutes are published in the newspaper. This will be on the next agenda.

**Citizens and Delegations, Recognize other in Attendance:** Chairman Solin welcomed all in attendance.

**New Business:**

**Register of Deeds Chet Haatvedt introduced Nicolet Technical College Intern Kaitlin Wurtinger, Business Management Student:** Haatvedt stated Wurtinger will be interning for five weeks in the Register of Deeds Office on an unpaid internship.

**Corporation Counsel Robin Stowe will review a Notice of Injury and Claim received by Langlade County, referred from the Executive Committee:** Corporation Counsel Stowe reviewed the claim referred by the Executive Committee. Motion by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Feller Gottard to deny the claim and forward the claim to the insurance company. All Supervisors present voted aye, motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Elections or Appointments: Appoint Ben Zelazoski to another 5-year term on the Langlade County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.** Motion by Supervisor Pierce, second by Supervisor Nye to approve Consent Agenda. All ayes, motion carried. Consent Agenda is adopted.

**RESOLUTION #13-2020**

**INTRODUCED BY: MATRIX COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: ESTABLISH SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE YEARS 2021-2024**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sec. 59.22, Wis. Stats., the County Board must establish the total annual compensation for services to be paid to county elected officials (other than supervisors and circuit judges) prior to the earliest time for filing nomination papers for the county elective office; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board desires to establish the total annual compensation, which is separate and distinct from the fringe benefits offered by the County to elected officials, for the upcoming four-year term for the County Clerk, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds;

<u>Position</u>	<u>2021 Wage</u>	<u>2022 Wage</u>	<u>2023 Wage</u>	<u>2024</u>
County Clerk	\$64,288	\$67,788	\$67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA
Register of Deeds	\$64,288	\$67,788	\$67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA
Treasurer	\$64,288	\$67,788	\$67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA

**WHEREAS**, said fringe benefits are subject to increase or decrease during the officer's term at the discretion of the Board and in accordance with state and federal law; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, county elected officials may participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with state law, and each elected official is required to pay their share of the total WRS required contribution. Langlade County will pay only its share of the total required WRS contribution. It is expressly recognized that these shares may change, when the required WRS rate is adjusted, as authorized by law; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, county elected officials may elect to receive health insurance coverage under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial County employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in Wis. Stat. §111.70(1)(mm)2.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Langlade County Board of Supervisors herein assembled approves the total annual compensation for county elected officers under Wis. Stat. §59.22(1) shall be as follows, effective on the first day of a term of office that begins after the date of this:

<u>Position</u>	<u>2021 Wage</u>	<u>2022 Wage</u>	<u>2023 Wage</u>	<u>2024</u>
County Clerk	\$ 64,288	\$ 67,788	\$67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA
Register of Deeds	\$ 64,288	\$ 67,788	\$ 67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA
Treasurer	\$ 64,288	\$ 67,788	\$ 67,788 + Eligible COLA	2023 Wage + Eligible COLA

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in addition to the established salary, the aforementioned offices may receive a COLA for 2023 and 2024, as approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with state law and the County shall pay only its share of contributions required by law. Each elective official is required to pay their share of the total WRS required contribution. Langlade County will pay only its share of the total required WRS contribution. It is expressly recognized that these shares may change, when the required WRS rate is adjusted, as authorized by law. These contributions will be pre-tax.

The aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the County's health insurance program subject to the terms and conditions of the program, which may be modified from time-to-time by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors, under the same terms and conditions (e.g. premium contributions, co-pays, deductibles, etc.) as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial county employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in Wis. Stat. § 111.70(1)(mm)2.

Each elected official is eligible for, and may elect to participate in, the fringe benefit package provided to full-time non-represented employees of Langlade, and are subject to any revisions thereto. Such eligibility and participation is subject to the same terms and conditions as full-time non-represented employees of Langlade County.

**MATRIX COMMITTEE:**

David J. Solin, Chairman  
Sandy Fischer  
Doug Nonnenmacher  
Vern Cahak  
Don Scupien

**FISCAL NOTE:** An annual compensation adjustment of \$3,500 in the budget year of 2021 and 2022 for each of the following elected officials: County Clerk, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds. Following the budget year 2022, the salary for the County Clerk, County Treasurer and Register of Deeds elected officials will be subject to the County Board approved cost of living adjustment for 2023 and 2024. The increase in salary and benefits for these elected officials will need to be included in each of their respective budgets for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. If the respective Department budget cannot absorb the increase in salary, it will need to be addressed at a Finance Committee-Budget Hearing to find the funding during the budget process. This may result in a budget reduction in another area in order to fund the increase.

Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Supervisor Schuh to adopt. County Manager Clark discussed the processes used to make a recommendation of \$62,000 for 2021, COLA for 2022, 2023 & 2024, proposing the three elected salaries remain the same, and in two years review the Clerk of Courts salary in order to keep the four elected the same. Register of Deeds Haatvedt explained the process used to make the recommendations on the resolution, discussing the use of the study completed by Carlson Dettmann. Discussion held. Motion by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Medo to Amend Resolution #13-2020 to: \$62,000 for 2021 and COLA for 2022, 2023 and 2024. On the call of the roll to Amend Resolution #13-2020, all Supervisors voted aye, except Supervisors Fischer, Feller Gottard, Nye, Novak and Solin voted nay. 14 ayes, 5 nays. Resolution #13-2020 is Amended. On the call of the roll to adopt Amended Resolution #13-2020, all Supervisor voted aye, except Supervisors Feller Gottard, Novak and Solin voted nay. 16 ayes, 3 nays. Amended Resolution #13-2020 is adopted.

**RESOLUTION #15-2020**

**INTRODUCED BY: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO PROTECT THE WOLF RIVER WATERSHED FROM THE IMPACTS OF METALLIC SULFIDE MINING.**

**WHEREAS**, there are known metallic sulfide mineral deposits in and around the Wolf River Watershed, and a company was recently granted a license to drill exploration holes in the headwaters of the Wolf River, with the intent to locate an open-pit Metallic Sulfide Mine at that location adjacent to Langlade County; and

**WHEREAS**, as the defining natural feature in Northeastern Wisconsin, the Wolf River is designated as a natural scenic river and Outstanding Resource Water; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wolf River is one of the largest watersheds in Wisconsin, encompassing land and water resources within Forest, Oneida, Langlade, Menominee, Shawano, Outagamie, Waupaca, and Winnebago Counties, and thirty-four townships, before draining into Lake Winnebago, and ultimately Lake Michigan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wolf River provides a unique habitat for a variety of plants and animals such as trout and other freshwater fish, which would be negatively impacted by discharges related to mining; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the unique habitats along the Wolf River in Langlade County is located at the Upper Wolf River Fishery Area. This segment of the Wolf River known as the "Oxbow Rapids" has been designated a State Natural Area, and includes numerous seep springs and several spring runs; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of the Wolf River as a clean and unpolluted river serving the kayaking, tubing, rafting and fishing communities would have a significant and unrecoverable impact to the tourism businesses in Langlade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the DNR has invested hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to protect the Wolf River Watershed, and the failure to protect this investment represents poor fiscal management by allowing mining or exploration within the headwaters of the Wolf River; and

**WHEREAS**, the history of mining near such pristine habitats has demonstrated that it is not an "if", but rather a "when" scenario, of a major environmental catastrophe happening; and

**WHEREAS**, the potential impacts to the watershed of metallic mining include long term leaching of acid-producing wastes into the groundwater and watersheds which would harm natural habitats, sport-fishing and essential sources of drinking water and impact tourism based economic opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the hazardous wastes generated by metallic mining would degrade water quality and present risks to human health and the environment in Wisconsin, and sulfide mines are the largest source of taxpayer liability under the EPA's Superfund cleanup program; and

**WHEREAS**, the metallic mining within the Wolf River Watershed would result in the irreversible loss of significant cultural resources of the Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ojibwa Tribes of Indians of Wisconsin, including American Indian grave-sites and other areas of historical significance; and

**WHEREAS**, recent State Laws (including 2017 Wisconsin ACT 134) lifted the ban on metallic mining and the current permitting process for metallic mining leaves governmental entities “downstream” of potential mining impacts without any voice in the approval process when the mining activity occurs outside of municipal boundaries. The current permitting process provides limited opportunity for public comment, environmental analysis, accountability, oversight and local control; and

**WHEREAS**, since the County’s authority is derived from the State, this resolution represents a “call for action” to the State Legislature and Governor, to grant more authority to Counties with respect to the permitting process and regulation of metallic sulfide mining, specifically when that activity occurs outside municipal boundaries.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Langlade County Board of Supervisors strongly opposes the current State permitting process for metallic sulfide mining in Wisconsin, including metallic mineral exploration, and calls upon the Wisconsin DNR, the Wisconsin State Legislature, and Governor to adopt new rules which would deny permits for any metallic sulfide mine within the Wolf River Watershed area until the deficiencies in the current permitting process are resolved to identify and address state-wide and local environmental impacts by allowing all units of government within the Wolf River Watershed to participate in the permitting process for any proposed mining project within the Wolf River Watershed; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Langlade County Board of Supervisors calls upon the State Legislature and Governor to repeal 2017 Wisconsin ACT 134, and to enact new Legislation that provides greater protection of the Wolf River Watershed from the impacts of metallic sulfide mining, and that grants greater local control to Counties and other local governmental units to address local concerns related to metallic sulfide mining and exploration.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of the Resolution be forwarded to Governor Evers, the County’s representatives in the Wisconsin Legislature and the U.S. Congress, the Oneida County Clerk and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

David J. Solin, Chairman  
Ronald M. Nye  
Don Scupien  
Ben Pierce  
William Livingston

**FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal impact at this time.

Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Pennington to adopt. On the call of the roll, all Supervisors present voted aye. Resolution #15-2020 is adopted.

**RESOLUTION #18-2020**

**INTRODUCED BY: FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: OPPOSING THE RELOCATION OF PROBLEM WOLVES IN LANGLADE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, in February, 2010 with Resolution 21-2010, the Langlade County Board of Supervisors requested the Wisconsin DNR and other partners to implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population down to the management goal; and

**WHEREAS**, although Langlade County supported a population goal of 350 wolves in 2010, gray wolf population has increased to approximately 950 wolves as of April 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, with the increase in the gray wolf population, Wisconsin residents have experienced depredation as well as threats to human safety and other animals resulting in reduced hunting opportunities, and compromised agricultural operations; and

**WHEREAS**, one management control method the DNR has used to address depredation by wolves is to relocate problem wolves to other counties in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, such method has been found to be ineffective in eliminating depredation as these wolves cause damage after relocation; and

**WHEREAS**, considering Langlade County has a large county forest with many agricultural operations, Langlade County is concerned that the relocation of problem wolves in the county would significantly impact recreational opportunities and agricultural operations.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes the DNR relocating problem wolves into Langlade County from other counties and/or states.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Clerk shall mail copies of this resolution to Governor Evers, the State Legislators for Langlade County, the Secretary of the DNR, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

**LANGLADE COUNTY FORESTRY & RECREATION COMMITTEE:**

Ronald M. Nye, Chairman  
Donald Scupien  
Joseph Novak III  
William Livingston  
John Medo

**Fiscal Note:** No fiscal impact.

Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Wiegert to adopt. Discussion held. On the call of the roll to adopt, all Supervisors present voted aye. Resolution #18-2020 is adopted.

**RESOLUTION #21-2020**

**INTRODUCED BY: HIGHWAY COMMITTEE**

**INTENT: VACATE PORTION OF RESERVED RIGHT OF WAY CTH “J”**

**WHEREAS**, the Committee has reviewed a right of way dedication along CTH “J” on land located in the Towns of Peck & Upham (currently owned by Mr. Maier); and

**WHEREAS**, Committee recommending accepting Mr. Maier’s offer to purchase not to exceed 8,668 Square Feet of right of way from Langlade County along CTH “J”; (see attached maps) for a purchase amount of \$795.96\* (\*at the rate of \$4,000 per acre); and

**WHEREAS**, Highway Committee has determined that remaining right of way (extending from the centerlines) is sufficient in order to maintain this County Highway, and no further expansion of this existing County highway is anticipated; and

**WHEREAS**, upon vacating the right of way to the adjacent landowner, it will be responsibility of the landowner to prepare and record an instrument that evidences this vacation of reserved interests.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Langlade County Board of Supervisors to authorize the County Clerk to execute an instrument (Quit Claim Deed) prepared by the landowner to evidence Highway Committee's decision to vacate the portion of reserved right of way referred to in this Resolution.

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:**

Richard H. Hurlbert, Chairman  
Joseph Novak, III  
Pete Pennington  
Richard Wiegert  
Arlene Bonacci

**FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal impact.

Motion by Supervisor Pennington, second by Supervisor Wiegert to adopt. Highway Commissioner Braun addressed the Board, explaining the parcel location, the grade reconstruction, maintaining a clear zone and maintaining the right of way. On the call of the roll to adopt Resolution #21-2020, all Supervisor present voted aye. Resolution #21-2020 is adopted.

**RESOLUTION #22-2020**

**INTRODUCED BY: LANGLADE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**INTENT: DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR LANGLADE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, in December, 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government, state governments, and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Wisconsin declared a Health Emergency in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, Langlade County government has been working to protect the health and well-being of its residents from the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare for the impacts the disease is likely to have on the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the County in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 323.11, Wisconsin Statutes, the governing body of any local unit of government may declare, by ordinance or resolution, an emergency existing within the local unit of government whenever conditions arise by reason of a riot or civil commotion, a disaster, or an imminent threat of a disaster, that impairs transportation, food or fuel supplies, medical care, fire, health or police protection, or other critical systems of the local unit of government; and

**WHEREAS**, the period of the emergency shall be limited by the ordinance or resolution to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist; and

**WHEREAS**, due to spread of a novel strain of the coronavirus, also referred to as COVID-19, the State of Wisconsin and the Federal government have issued public health emergency declarations which activate State and Federal resources in response to this public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, given this public health emergency and the measures required to prevent the community spread of COVID-19 (i.e., limitations on public gatherings, limitations on travel, social distancing, etc.), it is necessary for the Board to declare a State of Emergency in order to activate a Unified Command and delegate authority to this Unified Command structure regarding the continuity of County government operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Unified Command shall consist of the County Board Chairman (or designee / County Board Member), the County Manager, and the Public Health Director / Public Health Officer, Emergency Management; and

**WHEREAS**, the delegation of authority under this State of Emergency declaration shall continue for so long as the emergency conditions exist, not to exceed sixty (60) days.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.11 the Board finds and declares that an emergency exists within the County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the County due to the spread of COVID-19; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Board may order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Rules of the Langlade County Board are temporarily suspended and the Unified Command shall be delegated the general authority to order whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the jurisdiction and authority of Langlade County government; to implement and enforce the directives and recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services; and to provide direction on the continuity of County government operations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Unified Command is hereby authorized and directed by the Board to coordinate and administer the County's emergency management response and to carry out the orders of the Board related herein.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Head of Emergency Management of the County is authorized and directed to carry out her duties under the County's Emergency Management Plan under the supervision and direction of Unified Command and perform such other duties as may be directed.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, based upon the information available to the Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall continue for sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Resolution unless sooner terminated or extended by further resolution of the Board.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

David J. Solin, Chr.  
Robert Benishek  
Douglas Nonnenmacher  
Vernon Cahak  
Arlene C. Bonacci

Ronald M. Nye, Vice-Chr.  
Sandy Fischer  
Carol Feller Gottard  
Reinhardt Balcerzak  
Joseph Novak, III

Don Scupien, Second Vice-Chr.  
Richard H. Hurlbert  
John Breske  
George Shinnors  
Pete Pennington

Richard Schuh  
William J. Livingston

Roger Buck  
John Medo

Ben Pierce  
Richard A. Wiegert

**FISCAL NOTE:** No fiscal note.

Corporation Counsel Stowe explained the need for Langlade County to declare a state of emergency for Langlade County which brings a chain of command and the opportunity for state and federal resources, giving specific authority to the Unified Command Structure.

Motion by Supervisor Balcerzak, second by Supervisor Pennington to adopt. Discussion on the vote percentage needed to adopt, as the resolution is currently for majority vote. Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Supervisor Schuh to amend Resolution #22-2020 to require a three-fourths vote to adopt. On the call of the amendment, all Supervisor present voted aye. Resolution #22-2020 is amended. On the call of the roll to adopt Amended Resolution #22-2020, all Supervisors present voted aye. Amended Resolution #22-2020 is adopted. Committee Meetings and Board Meetings are suspended, unless telecommunication meetings can be arranged, making sure that the handouts are available.

Motion was made by Supervisor Wiegert, second by Supervisor Pennington to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. All Supervisors present voted aye. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

I, Judy Nagel, Langlade County Clerk, Antigo, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Langlade County Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting of March 17, 2020.

Judy Nagel  
Langlade County Clerk

Dated this 25th day of March, 2020.

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